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**Modified Peptides as Therapeutic Agents****Abstract**

- 5           The present invention concerns fusion of Fc domains with  
biologically active peptides and a process for preparing pharmaceutical  
agents using biologically active peptides. In this invention,  
pharmacologically active compounds are prepared by a process  
comprising:
- 10           a)     selecting at least one peptide that modulates the activity of a  
protein of interest; and
- b)     preparing a pharmacologic agent comprising an Fc domain  
covalently linked to at least one amino acid of the selected  
peptide.
- 15       Linkage to the vehicle increases the half-life of the peptide, which  
otherwise would be quickly degraded in vivo. The preferred vehicle is an  
Fc domain. The peptide is preferably selected by phage display, E. coli  
display, ribosome display, RNA-peptide screening, or chemical-peptide  
screening.